CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining a client ID comprising:

receiving a request from a first user terminal; and

extracting a client ID from the request, wherein the client ID includes the client ID for the first user terminal.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the request is received in a front-end processor.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the request includes a WTLS handshake and wherein extracting a client ID for the first user terminal includes:

extracting a session ID from the WTLS handshake; and

determining the client ID from the session ID.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the WTLS handshake includes a WTLS full handshake.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein the WTLS handshake includes a WTLS abbreviated handshake.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the request includes a WSP connect and wherein extracting a client ID for the first user terminal includes extracting the client ID from the WSP connect.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the request includes a WSP resume and wherein extracting a client ID for the first user terminal includes extracting the client ID from the WSP resume.

8. A method of balancing a data load on a network comprising:

receiving a request from a client;

determining a first source address and a first source port from the request;

remapping the first source address of the request to a front-end processor source address;

remapping the first source port of the request to an front-end processor source port; and

sending the remapped request to an origin server.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein determining a first source address and a first source port from the request includes:

receiving a WSP connect; and

extracting a client ID from the WSP connect.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein determining a first source address and a first source port from the request includes:

receiving a WSP resume; and

extracting a client ID from the WSP resume.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein determining a first source address and a first source port from the request includes:

receiving a abbreviated WTLS handshake;

extracting a session ID from the abbreviated WTLS handshake; and

determining the client ID from the session ID.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein determining a first source address and a first source port from the request includes:

receiving a full WTLS handshake;

extracting a session ID from the full WTLS handshake; and

determining the client ID from the session ID.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein remapping the first source address of the request to a front-end processor source address includes:

storing the first source address and the corresponding front-end processor source address; and

storing the first source port and the corresponding front-end processor source port.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein storing includes storing the corresponding source addresses and the corresponding source ports in a table.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein:

if the request includes at least one of a group consisting of a WSP connect, a WSP resume, and a WTLS handshake, then:

assigning the client to a selected agent of a plurality of agents, such that a data load is substantially balanced across the plurality of agents.

16. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

receiving a response from the origin server, wherein the response is responding to the remapped request and wherein the response is received in the front-end processor;

remapping the origin server response source address to the front-end processor source address;

remapping the origin server response source port to the front-end processor source port; and

sending the remapped response to the client.

17. The method of claim 8, wherein remapping the first source address of the request to the front-end processor source address includes remapping the first source

address of the request to a selected agent source address wherein the selected agent is one of a plurality of agents; and

wherein remapping the first source port of the request to the front-end processor source port includes remapping the first source port of the request to the selected agent source port.

18. The method of claim 8, wherein the network includes a wireless network.

19. The method of claim 8, wherein the client is a mobile user terminal.

20. A method of assigning an agent comprising:

receiving a response from an origin server to a request from a first mobile user terminal, wherein the first mobile user terminal and the origin server are coupled by a circuit switched network; and

confirming an IP address for the first mobile user terminal including:

determining the client ID of the first mobile user terminal; and

comparing a current IP address assigned to the first mobile user terminal to the destination address of the response.

21. The method of claim 20 further comprising:

updating the destination address of the response if the destination address of the response is not the same as the current IP address assigned to the first mobile user terminal.

22. The method of claim 20 wherein the IP address is confirmed by a front-end processor.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein determining the client ID of the first mobile user terminal includes extracting the client ID from the response.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein extracting the client ID includes extracting the client ID from at least one of a group consisting of a WSP connect, a WSP resume, and a WTLS handshake.

25. A system for determining a client ID comprising

a processor;

a storage facility coupled to the processor and containing instructions executable by the processor which configure the processing system to

receive a request from a first user terminal; and

extract a client ID from the request, wherein the client ID includes the client ID for the first user terminal; and

a network coupled to the processor.

26. The system of claim 25 further comprising:

a front-end processor and wherein the request is received in the front-end processor.

27. The system of claim 25 wherein the request includes at least one of a group consisting of a WTLS handshake, a WSP connect, and a WSP resume.

28. A system for balancing a data load on a network comprising

a processor;

a network coupled to the processor;

a front-end processor coupled to the network;

a client coupled to the network; and

a storage facility coupled to the processor and containing instructions executable by the processor which configure the processing system to:

receive a request from the client;

determine a first source address and a first source port from the request;

remap the first source address of the request to a front-end processor source address;

remap the first source port of the request to an front-end processor source port; and

send the remapped request to an origin server.

29. The system of claim 28 wherein the determine a first source address and a first source port from the request includes:

receiving at least one of a group consisting of a WTLS handshake, a WSP connect, and a WSP resume.

30. The system of claim 28 wherein the determine a first source address and a first source port from the request includes:

receiving at least one of a group consisting of a WTLS handshake, a WSP connect, and a WSP resume.

31. The system of claim 28 wherein the remap the first source address of the request to a front-end processor source address includes:

storing the first source address and the corresponding front-end processor source address; and

storing the first source port and the corresponding front-end processor source port.

32. The system of claim 28 wherein the storage facility coupled to the processor and further contains instructions executable by the processor which configure the processing system to:

receive a response from the origin server, wherein the response is responding to the remapped request and wherein the response is received in the front-end processor;

remap the origin server response source address to the front-end processor source address;

remap the origin server response source port to the front-end processor source port; and

send the remapped response to the client.

33. The system of claim 28 wherein the remap the first source address of the request to a front-end processor source address includes remapping the first source address of the request to a selected agent source address wherein the selected agent is one of a plurality of agents; and

wherein remapping the first source port of the request to the front-end processor source port includes remapping the first source port of the request to the selected agent source port.

34. The system of claim 28, wherein the network includes a wireless network.

35. The system of claim 28, wherein the client is a mobile user terminal.

36. A system for assigning an agent comprising:

a processor;

a network coupled to the processor;

a front-end processor coupled to the network;

a client coupled to the network; and

a storage facility coupled to the processor and containing instructions executable by the processor which configure the processing system to

receive a response from an origin server to a request from a first mobile user terminal, wherein the first mobile user terminal and the origin server are coupled by a circuit switched network; and

confirm an IP address for the first mobile user terminal including:

determine the client ID of the first mobile user terminal; and

compare a current IP address assigned to the first mobile user terminal to the destination address of the response.

37. The system of claim 36 wherein the storage facility coupled to the processor and further contains instructions executable by the processor which configure the processing system to:

update the destination address of the response if the destination address of the response is not the same as the current IP address assigned to the first mobile user terminal.

38. The system of claim 36 wherein the IP address is confirmed by the front-end processor.

39. The system of claim 36 wherein the determine the client ID of the first mobile user terminal includes extracting the client ID from the response.

40. The system of claim 39 wherein extracting the client ID includes extracting the client ID from at least one of a group consisting of a WSP connect, a WSP resume, and a WTLS handshake.

41. A system for of determining a client ID comprising:

a means for receiving a request from a first user terminal; and

a means for extracting a client ID from the request, wherein the client ID includes the client ID for the first user terminal.

42. A system for balancing a data load on a network comprising:

a means for receiving a request from a client;

a means for determining a first source address and a first source port from the request;

a means for remapping the first source address of the request to a front-end processor source address;

a means for remapping the first source port of the request to an front-end processor source port; and

a means for sending the remapped request to an origin server.

43. A system for assigning an agent comprising:

a means for receiving a response from an origin server to a request from a first mobile user terminal, wherein the first mobile user terminal and the origin server are coupled by a circuit switched network; and

a means for confirming an IP address for the first mobile user terminal including:

a means for determining the client ID of the first mobile user terminal; and

a means for comparing a current IP address assigned to the first mobile user terminal to the destination address of the response.